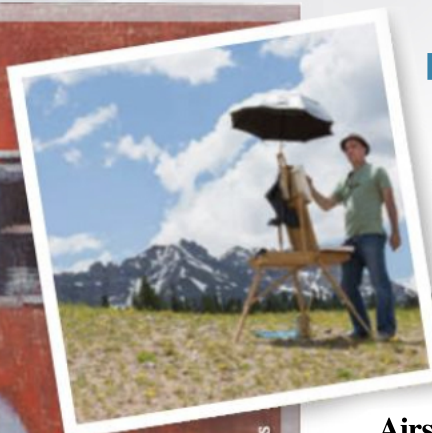




Patrick Saunders



Patrick Saunders

Media: Oil

Recognition: Numerous regional and national awards, including the Gold Medal-Oil Painters of America 2020 Juried Salon Show and Honorable Mention-Southwest Art Magazine Artistic Excellence Competition

Airstream: 2017 25-foot Flying Cloud

As the creative director for Colgate-Palmolive’s global advertising, Patrick Saunders spent years traveling the world--without having time enough to experience any destination. That frenetic life changed in 2015 when Saunders and his photographer-wife, Kimberly, sold everything, bought an Airstream, and hit the road.

Their goal was to travel widely, experience deeply, and create art inspired by the people and places they encountered. Saunders began competing in plein air painting competitions and stacked up the awards.

For the first few years, their itineraries revolved around plein air events throughout the United States, and their Airstream was their secret weapon. The Saunders would show up early to a location, thoroughly scout it for inspirational material and the best light, and be relaxed and ready for the competition.

These days, their travel centers around the plein air workshops given by Saunders, as well as visiting destinations they long to experience. Those are the intimate, off-the-beaten track places, which the Saunders meticulously explore to find the best subjects and time of the day to create.

“When you live in a travel trailer, you tend to live around the sun,” notes Saunders, who describes his workday as starting early to catch the sunrise, painting a few hours before the light changes, relaxing in the heat of the day (and working on the business’s social media), then painting a few more hours in the afternoon.

“The whole point of my art is to slow down and experience all the beauty that the world has to offer. This goes hand in hand with living and traveling in an Airstream--it has expanded the possibilities of what I can interact with to create meaningful, impactful art.”



Patrick Saunders